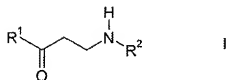


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A monoalkylaminoketone compound of the formula I



in which

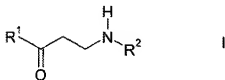
R<sup>1</sup> denotes a thienyl or furyl radical which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R<sup>3</sup> and/or R<sup>4</sup>, provided that R<sup>1</sup> is not ~~2,5-dimethyl-3-thienyl~~ 3-thienyl substituted by both R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> where both R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are methyl,

R<sup>2</sup> denotes alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> each, independently of one another, denote H, alkyl or alkoxy having 1-20 C atoms, aryl, aryloxy or COOR<sup>2</sup>, F, Br, OH, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, N(R<sup>2</sup>)<sub>2</sub> or NHCOR<sup>2</sup>,

or a salt thereof.

2. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of a monoalkylaminoketone compound of the formula I



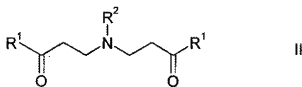
in which

R<sup>1</sup> denotes a thienyl or furyl radical which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R<sup>3</sup> and/or R<sup>4</sup>, provided that R<sup>1</sup> is not ~~2,5-dimethyl-3-thienyl~~ 3-thienyl substituted by both R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> where both R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are

methyl,

- $R^2$  denotes alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,  
 $R^3, R^4$  each, independently of one another, denote H, alkyl or alkoxy having 1-20 C atoms, aryl, aryloxy or  $\text{COOR}^2$ , F, Br, OH, CN,  $\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{N}(\text{R}^3)_2$  or  $\text{NHCOR}^2$ ,

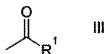
by reacting a compound of the formula II



in which

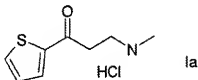
$R^1$  and  $R^2$  have the meaning indicated above, in the presence of an alkylamine of the formula  $\text{R}^2\text{NH}_2$ , in which  $\text{R}^2$  has the meaning indicated above.

3. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to Claim 2, in which  $\text{R}^1$  denotes 2-thienyl.
4. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to Claim 2, in which  $\text{R}^2$  denotes methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or isopropyl.
5. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2, wherein the pH for the conversion of the compounds of the formula II into the compounds of the formula I is adjusted to about pH 2-7.5 by addition of an alkylamine of the formula  $\text{R}^2\text{NH}_2$ .
6. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2, wherein the conversion of the compounds of the formula II into the compounds of the formula I is carried out at  $0^\circ - 200^\circ\text{C}$ .
7. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2, wherein firstly the compound of the formula II is obtained by reaction of a mixture of a formaldehyde source with a corresponding alkylammonium salt and a ketone of the formula III

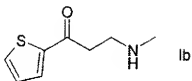


in which  $R^1$  has the meaning indicated in claim 2,  
in the presence of a strong acid, and the compounds of the formula II obtained in this way  
are employed without further isolation for the preparation of the compounds of the  
formula I.

8. **(Withdrawn)** Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to Claim 6, wherein the pH of the strongly acidic reaction mixture comprising the compounds of the formula II is increased to about pH 2-7.5, without further isolation of this compound, by addition of an alkylamine of the formula  $R^2NH_2$ , and the mixture is subsequently warmed.
9. **(Withdrawn)** Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to Claim 7, wherein the reaction mixture comprising the compounds of the formula II is warmed to  $0^\circ C$  to  $200^\circ C$  after addition of a corresponding alkylamine.
10. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2 for the preparation of 3-methylamino-1-phenyl-1-propanone or 3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone.
11. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2, wherein an acid-addition salt of the compound of the formula II is employed, and an acid-addition salt of the compound of the formula I is obtained.
12. **(Previously presented)** A compound of claim 1 which is of the formula Ia:



13. **(Previously presented)** A compound of claim 1 which is of the formula Ib:



or a salt thereof.

**14. (Canceled)**

**15. (Previously presented)**      A compound of claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  denotes 2-thienyl.

**16. (Previously presented)**      A compound of claim 1, wherein  $R^2$  denotes methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or isopropyl.

**17. (Previously presented)**      A compound of claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  is selected from: 2- or 3-furyl, or 2- or 3-thienyl, each optionally substituted by  $R^3$  and/or  $R^4$ .

**18. (Canceled)**

**19. (Previously presented)**      A compound of claim 1, wherein  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are both H.